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MEMORANDUM

TO: Ambassador Albright
FROM: POL - Cameron R. Hume *WHD*
SUBJECT: August 8 Security Council Informals: Rwanda

BACKGROUND

The SYG report released on Friday assess the political, humanitarian, and military situation in Rwanda. Today the Council will discuss the report and the possibility of a follow-on Presidential Statement. On the whole, the report is a strong one with few controversial elements. Washington has reviewed it and has minimal comments. A/S Moose and Shattuck are still in the region and will probably be bringing new ideas back with them. Discussion in the Council should center on 4 substantive elements:

Political Process. The report quite rightly holds the Rwandan government responsible for moving toward political reconciliation, and encourages it to take further steps. In addition, the report gives special responsibility to Rwanda's neighbors for encouraging political reconciliation and regional stability. A/S Moose has been talking with regional leaders about a regional refugee conference, but there is no firm proposal on the table.

Military Coordination. The major issue here for the USG is the report's contention that all foreign troops should ideally be placed under the command of UNAMIR, or secondarily, authorized by the Security Council. Clearly, we object to either formulation in this case. You should stress in the Council that we already have a workable coordination mechanism in place, and in such a crisis our focus should be on delivering aid in the most efficient way possible--not command structures.

UNAMIR Mandate. The report lays out a revised concept of operations that essentially describes current reality. It is a limited reality-based list of tasks that we should endorse. OSD's only caveat is that one task we described in Ch VII language rather than Ch VI language: "promoting stability and security" is more realistic than "ensuring or providing stability and security."

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Encouraging Returns. The report mentions steps the Rwandan government can take to encourage returns, but does not talk about human rights monitors. The High Commissioner for Human Rights has tabled a proposal for 21 monitors and issued an appeal for \$2.1M to cover the cost. As many delegations have pointed out, at least 5 times that number is probably required. State is behind the idea of more monitors, but hasn't yet come out with any concrete proposals.

TALKING POINTS:

Opening Remarks

- o I would like to begin by commending the SYG on this prompt and comprehensive report. I find its observations on the political process and UNAMIR's mandate to be right on the mark.
- o I would suggest that any follow-on Presidential Statement echo the report's emphasis on the Rwandan Government's ultimate responsibility for reconciliation, as well as the special role Rwanda's neighbors must play in ensuring regional stability.
- o In addition, a follow-on statement should endorse, in most aspects, the UNAMIR's concept of operations as laid out in the report. It presents a focused and realistic set of tasks.

Political Process

- o The International Community should remind the Rwandan Government that it is incumbent upon that body to take concrete actions to move Rwanda toward reconciliation.
- o We should spell out those actions as the SYG has in the report: encouraging refugee return, a truly broad-based government, integrated armed forces and police, and fair prosecutions.
- o The OAU and regional powers do have a special role to play, and we should consider constructive means for bringing them into the political process.

UNAMIR Mandate

- o As I said, the report's mandate presents a realistic and workable set of tasks that we should endorse.
- o One point I would like to raise is that in paragraph 20 we should be careful not to talk about "ensuring or providing" stability and security when UNAMIR is really taking on the more realistic task of "promoting" stability and security.

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Chain of Command

- o As I said in my opening remarks, in a crisis such as the one we're facing in Rwanda, the primary issue should be getting aid to the region quickly and effectively. As it is, U.S. forces are coordinating with the Secretary-General's representative and my delegation has kept the Council fully informed. We do not see any need to change these arrangements..
- o My government absolutely agrees that any contingents on the ground must have formal liaison arrangements with UNAMIR, and as you know, the US contingent has made such arrangements.

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